



**General Law Committee
Connecticut General Assembly**

***House Bill 5202, AN ACT PROHIBITING PHARMACISTS FROM MAKING CHANGES TO
PRESCRIPTIONS WITHOUT PRESCRIBER CONSENT***

February 7, 2017

Representative Baram, Senator Leone, Senator Witkos, and Distinguished Members:

I would like to thank you for bringing this important matter to this forum. I am here to testify in opposition to House Bill 5202. My name is David Benoit. I am a pharmacist and for over twenty years, I have worked in the business of independent community pharmacy at Northeast Pharmacy Service Corporation, a group purchasing organization. Currently, there are approximately 280 Participating Pharmacies.

Pharmacists, physicians, patients and their insurance plans work together every day to ensure that patients receive the medication needed to improve their health status under rules established by the payers.

There are changes that pharmacists make every day in consultation with the patient, the prescriber, or as required by the insurance plan. Examples include: Corrections of miswritten drug strengths of Tylenol where it is combined with opioids; decreasing quantity dispensed at patient request; increasing 30-day fills to 90-days as required by the plan or requested by the patient; filling in missing information on an incompletely written Rx – patient address, supervising physician, NPI, etc.

We believe that disrupting the current workflows of all the parties would be terribly disruptive without enhancing the end result for patients. Therefore, we oppose HB5202.

David Benoit, MHP, RPh
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